

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I just want to say in very brief, few words that I appreciate what Senator Venditte is trying to do and I won't be as dramatic as Senator Barnett but the facts are that by imprisoning the individual with the lesser amounts of the drug you do nothing really to stop the pusher who promotes the drug. We should concentrate more and we should be tougher and more severe on those individuals who sell the drug and I know that Senator Venditte is concerned. I am not concerned about building a bigger penitentiary. If we need it, we can probably build it. We ought to work those guys harder who are in there. There is a lot of other things we could do also, but if we are going to stamp out drug traffic, you have to do it with the pusher because as has been said here on the floor this morning, any one youngster can get ahold of a joint of marijuana and you can find yourself in serious trouble with a youngster who really didn't intend to do much and found himself in serious trouble. So I would hope that you would not support the Venditte amendment and that you would vote it down.

PRESIDENT: Mr. Clerk, you have...

CLERK: Mr. President, the hearing room for Retirement will be changed from 1019 to 1113 on Wednesday. Signed Senator Hasebroock. Mr. President, Senator Dworak asked to be excused this p.m. Mr. President, the Education Committee gives notice of an executive session immediately upon adjournment under the North balcony, signed Senator Frank Lewis. Mr. President, your committee on Urban Affairs to whom was referred LB 158 instructs me to report the same indefinitely postponed; 274 advanced to General File as amended. Signed Senator George. Mr. President, Senator Bereuter asked to print amendments in the Legislative Journal to LB 210. Mr. President, some additional amendments to LB 38, Senator Barnett asked to print in the Journal. Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Would you want to close your debate on...all right, we still have, I thought we were going to take up a resolution. I am sorry, Senator Venditte, but I was leaving about four minutes for a resolution. Do you want to close debate on your amendment?

SENATOR VENDITTE: Okay, Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I think it is true that pot is becoming a way of life here in the United States and I think a large part of that way of life has to do with the ways the legislatures across this country are enacting the laws. Yes, Senator Luedtke mentioned that conference in Washington and I attended that particular seminar on marijuana and it was a one-sided view and Senator Luedtke knows that and I was extremely upset with the committee who set that up. There was no opportunity for the opposition to present their point of view. Nevertheless, I think it is important we stay with the issue and the issue at hand is simply this, that any person knowingly or intentionally possessing one pound or more of marijuana be guilty of a Class IV felony. Now, Senator Barnett, I have been at least trying to converse with Senator Barnett that minimum fines were extremely important in providing some conformity, some consistency with